In the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application:

Claims 1 - 31 (canceled)

Claims 32 - 43 (canceled)

Claims 44 – 52 (cancelled)

53. (new) An method for treating osteoporosis in a mammal, comprising:

administering to a patient in need of treatment for osteoporosis an effervescent solution having a buffered pH of about 3 to about 6.5 containing

(a) an effective amount of a bisphosphonate,

(b) an acid component selected from the group consisting of citric acid and monosodium citrate,

(c) an alkaline component selected from the group consisting of an alkali metal bicarbonate, an alkali metal carbonate and mixtures thereof,

(d) an anti-ulcer agent, and

(e) a solubilizing agent.

54. (new) The method of Claim 53, wherein the bisphosphonate is alendronate, etidronate or risedronate.

55. (new) The method of Claim 53, wherein the acid component is about 45% by weight of the solid composition.

56. (new) The method of Claim 53, wherein the composition is in

the form of a tablet.

57. (new) The method of Claim 53, wherein the solid composition contains a sweetener.

58. (new) The method of Claim 53, wherein the solublizing agent is selected from the group consisting of a polyvinylpyrrolidone, a polyethylene glycol, a dextran and mixtures thereof.

59. (new) The method of Claim 53, wherein the solution has buffering capacity to mediate the patient's stomach pH for 15 minutes or more.

60. (new) The method of Claim 53, wherein the amount of bisphosphonate in the composition is about 70 to 2000 mg.

61. (new) The method of Claim 53, wherein the anti-ulcer agent is a proton pump inhibitor.

62. (new) The method of Claim 61, wherein the proton pump inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of omeprazole, pantoprazole, lansoprasole, rabeprazole, and combinations thereof.

63. (new) The method of Claim 53, wherein the anti-ulcer agent is an H_2-antagonist.

64. (new) The method of Claim 63, wherein the H_2-antagonist.is selected from the group consisting of ranitidine, cimetidine, famotidine, nizatidine, and combinations thereof.